



Arizona Department of Public Safety

- For Immediate Release -

Tuesday, February 3, 2009

GIITEM Officers arrest suspected gang member at the Mexican border trying to bring illegal narcotics into Arizona

On February 1, 2009, GIITEM (Gang & Immigration Intelligence Team Enforcement Mission) Detectives received information from the Border Patrol that a subject with possible gang ties had attempted to cross into Arizona from Mexico at Lukeville with a large quantity of prescription drugs. GIITEM detectives responded and took disposition of the case.

Suspect: Joshua Lee Chester

**Possible Charges: Possession and transportation of prescription drugs
Smuggle/Transport into State for sale and possession dangerous drugs
Smuggle/Transport into State for sale and possession narcotic drugs
Possession of drug paraphernalia**

Evidence seized included: 1017 tablets of Carisoprodol (Soma), 90 Valium, 90 Alprazolam, and 70 Neo-Pircodan.

Photos are available upon request.

“Had this suspect been successful in smuggling these drugs into the State there would have been a high probability that the smuggling activities would have led to other acts of crime. This is excellent investigative work by GIITEM,” said Roger Vanderpool, director of the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

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